



## **Recognizing Congressional Workers' Right to Organize**

*Endorsed by: Advocates for Youth, American Economic Liberties Project, American Federation of Government Employees, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), American Federation of Teachers, Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, Autistic People of Color Fund, Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network, Azul, Border Network for Human Rights, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), Center for LGBTQ Economic Advancement & Research (CLEAR), Coalition on Human Needs, CommonDefense.us, Defending Rights & Dissent, Demand Progress, Free Press Action, Friends of the Earth U.S., GovTrack.us, Indivisible, International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, MoveOn, National Center for Transgender Equality, National Employment Law Project, National Immigration Law Center, National Partnership for Women & Families, National Security Counselors, National Women's Law Center, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice, Our Revolution, Pay Our Interns, People's Parity Project, Progressive Change Campaign Committee, Public Citizen, R2H Action [Right to Health], Rebuilding Independence My Style, Revolving Door Project, RootsAction.org, Service Employees International Union, Sierra Club, Sunrise Movement, The Frontline, The Workers Circle, Transport Workers Union of America, Treatment Action Group, UndocuBlack Network, Unemployed Workers United, United Steelworkers, URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity*

### **Background:**

- Following the passage of the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA) in 1995, the Office of Compliance (later renamed the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, or OCWR) adopted unionization regulations in 1996 that needed Congressional passage for enactment. Passage of this resolution is the final step to give most congressional workers in the House legal protection to organize and bargain collectively. Twenty-six years later, this resolution finally takes that step and approves OCWR's regulations.
- Representative Andy Levin introduced H.Res. 915 on February 9, 2022 and is now joined by 165 cosponsors.
- Under current law, employees of the House of Representatives— staff from personal and committee offices to the Parliamentarian to the Sergeant at Arms – do not have legal protections for organizing or bargaining collectively.
- The resolution would approve the 1996 regulations recommended by OCWR for House offices and allow for the legal promulgation of the 1996 regulations that were issued by the Board in 1996 so that 220(e) offices, which includes most Member and committee offices, would be allowed to organize and bargain collectively.
- OCWR informed the Committee on House Administration as a result of their hearing, "Oversight of Section 220 of the Congressional Accountability Act: Implementing the Rights of Congressional Staff to Collectively Bargain," that the language required

amendment in order to comply with the CAA. The corrected language now complies with the form specified in the CAA and enumerates the covered offices affected by the resolution.

**Cosponsors of H.Res.915 (165):**

Alma Adams, Pete Aguilar, Colin Allred, Jake Auchincloss, Nanette Diaz Barragán, Karen Bass, Joyce Beatty, Don Beyer, Earl Blumenauer, Lisa Blunt Rochester, Suzanne Bonamici, Jamaal Bowman, Anthony Brown, Shontel Brown, Julia Brownley, Cori Bush, Cheri Bustos, Tony Cardenas, André Carson, Matt Cartwright, Sean Casten, Kathy Castor, Joaquin Castro, Sheila Cherfilus McCormick, Judy Chu, David N. Cicilline, Katherine Clark, Yvette D. Clarke, Emanuel Cleaver, II, Steve Cohen, Gerald E. Connolly, Joe Courtney, Charlie Crist, Jason Crow, Danny K. Davis, Madeleine Dean, Peter DeFazio, Diana DeGette, Rosa L. DeLauro, Suzan DelBene, Mark DeSaulnier, Ted Deutch, Debbie Dingell, Mike Doyle, Veronica Escobar, Anna G. Eshoo, Adriano Espaillat, Dwight Evans, Bill Foster, Lois Frankel, Ruben Gallego, John Garamendi, Sylvia R. Garcia, Jesús G. “Chuy” García, Jimmy Gomez, Al Green, Raul Grijalva, Jahana Hayes, Brian Higgins, Steven Horsford, Jared Huffman, Sara Jacobs, Pramila Jayapal, Hakeem Jeffries, Henry C. “Hank” Johnson, Jr., Eddie Bernice Johnson, Mondaire Jones, Kai Kahele, Marcy Kaptur, William R. Keating, Robin Kelly, Ro Khanna, Dan Kildee, Derek Kilmer, Ann Kirkpatrick, Raja Krishnamoorthi, Conor Lamb, Jim Langevin, John B. Larson, Brenda L. Lawrence, Barbara Lee, Susie Lee, Teresa Leger Fernandez, Mike Levin, Ted Lieu, Alan Lowenthal, Stephen F. Lynch, Tom Malinowski, Sean Patrick Maloney, Carolyn B. Maloney, Doris Matsui, Betty McCollum, A. Donald McEachin, James P. McGovern, Jerry McNerney, Gregory W. Meeks, Grace Meng, Kweisi Mfume, Joseph Morelle, Seth Moulton, Frank J. Mrvan, Jerrold Nadler, Grace F. Napolitano, Joe Neguse, Marie Newman, Donald Norcross, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Frank Pallone, Jr., Jimmy Panetta, Donald Payne, Jr., Ed Perlmutter, Scott Peters, Dean Phillips, Chellie Pingree, Mark Pocan, Katie Porter, Ayanna Pressley, David E. Price, Mike Quigley, Jamie Raskin, Raul Ruiz, C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Bobby L. Rush, Tim Ryan, Linda T. Sánchez, John P. Sarbanes, Mary Gay Scanlon, Jan Schakowsky, Adam Schiff, Bradley S. Schneider, Robert C. “Bobby” Scott, David Scott, Terri A. Sewell, Brad Sherman, Albio Sires, Elissa Slotkin, Adam Smith, Darren Soto, Jackie Speier, Melanie Stansbury, Haley Stevens, Marilyn Strickland, Thomas R. Suozzi, Eric Swalwell, Mark Takano, Mike Thompson, Dina Titus, Rashida Tlaib, Paul D. Tonko, Ritchie Torres, Norma Torres, Lori Trahan, David Trone, Lauren Underwood, Juan Vargas, Marc Veasey, Nydia Velázquez, Bonnie Watson Coleman, Peter Welch, Susan Wild, Nikema Williams, Frederica S. Wilson, John Yarmuth